



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

SIMMONS et al.

Serial No.: 10/816,346

Filed: April 1, 2004

Confirmation No.: 8786

Atty. File No.: 12854-20365

For: "FLOTATION PROCESSING
INCLUDING RECOVERY OF SOLUBLE
NONFERROUS BASE METAL VALUES"

) Group Art Unit: 1724

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) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON JANUARY 14, 2005.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP</p> <p>BY:  LORI LANE</p>
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56 and 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby submits the enclosed PTO Form 1449, although Applicant does not admit that any of such documents, alone or in any combination, is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). Moreover, the inclusion of these documents is not to be construed as an admission by Applicant that each such document is prior art as to the above-identified application.

Pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice of August 5, 2003, copies of any U.S. Patents or published U.S. Patent Applications are not being submitted herewith.

Copies of any foreign patent and non-patent documents are submitted herewith. Any documents not in English are accompanied by a translation, or their relevance as presently understood is indicated in English abstracts accompanying the documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the issuance of a First Office Action on the merits, and thus, no fees are believed to be due. However, the commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to deposit account no. 50-1419.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP

Date: January 14, 2005

By: 

René A. Pereyra

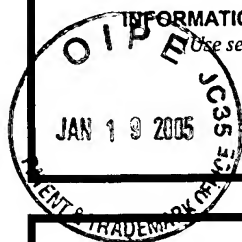
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Docket Number (optional) 12854-20365		Application Number 10/816,346
Applicant(s) SIMMONS et al.		
Filing Date April 1, 2004	Group Art Unit 1724	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1.	5,653,945	08/05/1997	GATHJE et al.	423	26	
	2.	6,210,648	04/03/2001	GATHJE et al.	423	26	
	3.	5,837,210	11/17/1998	SIMMONS et al.	423	26	
	4.	5,013,359	05/07/1991	FAIR et al.	75	744	
	5.	5,411,148	05/02/1995	KELEBEK et al.	209	166	
	6.	5,074,993	12/24/1991	KERR et al.	209	167	
	7.	821,516	5/22/1906	LOVETT			
	8.	5,653,945	08/05/1997	GATHJE et al.	423	26	
	9.	809,959	01/16/1906	KIRBY			
	10	1,045,970	12/03/1912	GREENWAY			
	11.	1,505,323	08/19/1924	EBERENZ			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	A.	AU-B-69283/87	01/02/1990	AUSTRALIA				
	B.	AU-A-39027/95	05/30/1996	AUSTRALIA				
	C.	2,608,462	06/24/1988	FRANCE				
	D.	833,320	05/30/1981	SOVIET UNION				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

a.	Ferron, C.J. et al., "Mineralogy and Selective Upgrading of a Gold-Platinum Flotation Concentrate", EPD Congress 1994, Minerals, Metals & Materials Society, (1994), pp. 21-32.
b.	Penberthy, C.J. et al., "The Recovery of Platinum-Group Elements From the UG-2 Chromitite, Bushveld Complex - A Mineralogical Perspective", Mineralogy and Petrology, Vol. 68, pp. 213-222 (2000).

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application

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	12.	3,655,044	04/11/1972	DELANEY	209	167	
	13.	3,834,896	09/10/1974	EISELE et al.	75	112	
	14.	4,797,202	01/10/1989	KLIMPEL et al.	209	166	
	15.	4,605,439	08/12/1986	WEIR	75	118	
	16.	4,571,263	02/18/1986	WEIR et al.	75	101R	
	17.	4,571,264	02/18/1996	WEIR et al.	75	101R	
	18.	5,245,110	09/14/1993	VAN DIJK et al.	585	946	
	19.	5,837,210	11/17/1998	SIMMONS et al.	209	166	
	20.	5,855,770	01/05/1999	CLARK et al.	209	166	
	21.	6,032,805	03/07/2000	CLARK et al.	209	164	
	22.	6,036,025	03/14/2000	CLARK et al.	209	164	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation YES NO
	E.	1,070,034	01/15/1980	CANADA			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	c.	Rybas, V. et al., "Ecological Outlook for the New Technology of the Copper-Nickel Ore Benefication Based on the Flotation with Nitrogen", XVIII International Mineral Processing Congress, Sidney-Australia, pp. 997-998, May 23-28, 1993.					
	d.	Rybas, V.V. et al., "The Use of Nitrogen in the Benefication of Copper-Nickel Ores", USSR, Tsvetnaia Metallurgica, Moscow (Non-Ferrous Metallurgy) 1989 (2), pp. 112-114. (English translation provided).					
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*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	
	g.	Talkington, Raymond W. et al., "Trends in the Distribution of the Precious Metals in the Lac-Des-Iles Complex, Northwestern Ontario", Canadian Mineralogist, Vol. 22, pp. 125-136 (1984).
	h.	Tarkian, M. et al., "Platinum-Group Elements In Porphyry Copper Deposits: A Reconnaissance Study, Mineralogy and Petrology", Vol. 65, pp. 161-183 (1999).
	i.	de Villiers, J.P.R. et al., A Mineraological Investigation of Ores from the Merensky Reef and Their Flotation Products National Institute For Metallurgy, Report No. 1966, 31 st March, 1978, Reissued 31 st March, 19/80.
	j.	Rao et al., "Electrochemistry in the Plant", Innovations in Flotation Technology, pp 57-100 (1992), Kluwer Academic Publishers, P Mavros and K A Matis (eds.)
	k.	Bogdanov, "Current Advances in the Theory and Practice of Flotation: Research Work Performed at the Mekhanobr Institute", Advances in Mineral Processing – edited by R. Sormasundaran (1986), pp 255-259, no month.
	l.	Nakazawa et al., "Effect of Pyrite-Pyrrhotite Contact on Their Flotabilities", Minerals and Metallurgical Processing, November 1985, pp. 206-211
	m.	Burger. "Froth Flotation Developments: This Industry Workhorse Goes From Strength to strength, "E&MJ (Sept. 1983) pp. 67-75.
	n.	Onstott et al. "By-Product Molybdenum Flotation From Copper Sulfide Concentrate With Nitrogen Gas In Enclosed Wemco Nitrogen Flotation Machines," Preprint No. 84-65 (1984) Society of Mining Engineers of AIME, pp. 1-8.
	o.	"Berglund et al. " Influence of Different Gases in Flotation of Sulphide Minerals, "Proceedings of An Engineering Society Foundation Conference on Advances in Coal and Mineral Processing Using Flotation, (1989) pp. 71-76, Society for Mining Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc., Littleton, Colorado.
	p.	Martin et al. "Complex Sulphide Ore Processing with Pyrite Flotation by Nitrogen," International Journal of Mineral Processing, 26 (1989) pp. 95-110, Elsevier Science Publishers B.V., Amsterdam.
	q.	Jones. "Some Recent Developments in the Measurement and Control of Xanthate, Perxanthate, Sulphide, and Redox Potential in Flotation." International Journal of Mineral Processing, 33 (1991) pp. 193-205, Elsevier Science Publishers B.V. Amsterdam.
	r.	Berglund. "Pulp Chemistry in Sulfide Mineral Flotation." International Journal of Mineral Processing, 33 (1991) pp. 21-31. Elsevier Science Publishers B.V. Amsterdam.
	s.	Klymowsky et al. "The Role of Oxygen in Xanthate Flotation of Galena, Pyrite and Chalcopyrite." CIM, Bulletin for June. pp. 683-688 (1970)
	t.	Rao and Finch. "Galvanic Interaction Studies on Sulphide Minerals." Canadian Metallurgical Quarterly, Vol 27, No. 4, pp. 253-259 (1988).
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	u.	Rao et al. "Possible Applications of Nitrogen Flotation of Pyrite." Minerals, Materials and Industry (ed. M.T. Jones). Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Pp. 285-293 (1990).
	v.	Rao et al. "Adsorption of Amyl Xanthate at Pyrrhotite in the Presence of Nitrogen and Implications in Flotation." Can. Metall. Q., Vol 30, No. 1 pp. 1-6 (1990).
	w.	Xu et al. "Sphalerite Reverse Flotation Using Nitrogen." Proc. Electrochem Soc., Vol 91-17, Proc. Int. Symp. Electrochem. Miner. Met. Process. III, 3 rd , pp. 170-190 (1992)
	x.	Van Deventer et al. "The Effect of Galvanic Interaction on the Behaviour of the Froth Phase During the Flotation of a Complex Sulphide Ore." Minerals Engineering, Vol. 6, No. 12, pp. 1217-1229 (1993).
	y.	Author unknown, title unknown, Chapter IV, Gases and Aeration, pp. 63-70, date unknown.
	z.	Plaskin et al. "Role of Gases in Flotation Reactions." Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R. Moscow, pp. 361-367, date unknown.
	aa.	Kongolo et al. "Improving the Efficiency of Sulphidization of Oxidized Copper Ores by Column and Inert Gas Flotation." Proceedings of COPPER 95-COBRE 95 International Conference, Volume II, The Metallurgical Society of CIM, pp. 183-196. 1995.
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